



## COLONIST AND CHRONICLE

Thursday Morning, August 16, 1866.

### TO ADVERTISERS.

Transient Advertisements must be paid for in advance of insertion.

### TO AGENTS.

Settlements of accounts will be received monthly, or the supply of paper will be discontinued. The daily and weekly will be furnished at the lowest cash rate, and no exception will in future be made to this rule.

### Our Agricultural Interests.

The report of the proceedings of a large and influential gathering of farmers and others interested in agricultural lands, will be read with interest. As a matter of course, great diversity of opinion was expressed, but the speeches in the main were good, and, despite some lofty flights of imagination on the part of two or three, quite edifying. The question of speculators and absenteers being allowed to hold land which they neglect to cultivate or improve, and which is enhanced in value by the enterprise and industry of parties who own adjacent tracts, was very fairly put before the meeting by Dr. Davie, who, however, failed to suggest a remedy. The remedy, however, was supplied by Messrs. Pemberton and Cochrane, who suggested a tax of so much per acre on wild land. Both gentlemen expressed themselves in favor of encouraging speculators to come and invest, instead of driving them away—an expression that will, we believe, be heartily re-echoed by all. The Cowichan Indian Reserve question was also introduced by Dr. Davie. This is a standing grievance with the settlers in that district, and Mr. Garrett showed that at least 3450 acres of the 3500 acres set apart for their use lies idle.

Mr. Pidwell excepted to all this attention being paid to the Reserve while there are so many thousand acres all around it lying unimproved. The trouble, however, seems to be that while the reserve is clear by nature, the other land requires clearing by manual labor to reduce it to a state fit for cultivation. Everybody knows that settlers in a new country are seldom overburdened with cash. Now, suppose that instead of his having to go to the great expense of clearing the land, a farmer could settle upon the reserve already cleared; surely he would be enabled to raise rich crops in less than one-third of the time that would be consumed under other circumstances. He would thus be benefitted directly and the country indirectly by the faculty afforded him. What is the case now?

The land, some of it the finest on the coast, is lying unimproved because of a false notion of philanthropy that has seized upon our rulers. The legal right of the savages to the reserve should be preserved; but as for extending mawkish sympathy in their behalf, that should be left for the pseudo philanthropists of other countries, whose knowledge of Indian character does not extend beyond that derived from a perusal of Fennimore Cooper's novels, or Capt. Mayne Reid's adventures in the wilds of America. Even by our practical people, altogether too much sympathy has been wasted on these redskins. Allot them five hundred acres—a liberal allowance—and sell the remaining three thousand acres to white men, who will improve and cultivate the soil. What shall be done with the proceeds, is a question for the Crown, not for the Colony to decide. The propriety of imposing a duty on produce having been broached, Mr. Cochrane and Mr. Pemberton said they would only protect products of the soil, and would leave general merchandise to enter the Colony untrammeled; while Mr. Pidwell—a dyed-in-the-wool Protectionist—would tax everything that can be manufactured here. Mr. Fell took up the cudgels for the Free Port, and showed the farmers that if they would become great and prosperous, they must aim to build up cities on the Island that would furnish them markets for their produce; by the decline of Victoria or Nanaimo, their only markets would be closed, and what could they hope to export?

The meeting, which was one of the most interesting and respectable we have attended on the Island, broke up after a few remarks from the chairman on the necessity of the farmers organizing for mutual protection. It is to be hoped that the Committee who have been appointed to lay the matter before the Executive, will hit upon some plan whereby a mutual understanding may be arrived at between those representing Town and Country interests, and an end be put forever to the agitation on fiscal questions that has proved so damaging to the best interests of the Colony.

ROUND THE CORNER (FORMERLY EMERSON'S SALOON) Langley Street, will be opened this (Saturday) evening, July 28th, at 8 o'clock, by Jacob Herkimer, who will be happy to see all his friends.

VICTORIA RIFLE CORPS.—Second class firing, Monday and Thursday, at 4 p. m. Third class firing, Wednesday, at 4 p. m. Squad drill, Wednesday and Friday, at 7:30 p. m. By order, J. Gordon Vinter, Adjutant.

## By Electric Telegraph

SPECIAL TO THE COLONIST AND CHRONICLE.

### YESTERDAY'S DESPATCHES!

#### European.

St. Petersburg, August 12.—The U. S. naval officers made their official entry into the city yesterday, and met with a grand reception. 50,000 people turned out to witness their entrance. They were welcomed by a magnificent oration of music, cheers and display of flags, and thousands of handkerchiefs waving in all directions. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed. Hon. C. M. Clay, Minister to the Court of St. Petersburg, gave a brilliant entertainment at his hotel to the diplomatic corps, heads of departments and distinguished citizens in honor of the naval officers. A ball and supper were given by the Yacht Club, which were attended by all the beauty and grace of the city. All the public and government buildings were dressed in Union colors and brilliantly illuminated, which, with the fireworks tended to produce a very lively sensation. Altogether the affair was a splendid tribute to America.

#### California.

San Francisco, August 14.—A dispute was settled yesterday announcing the loss of the British ship *Fairlight* in the China sea. The *Fairlight* cleared from this port on Nov. 15th, 1865, for Hongkong, and was on her way back, having sailed from Shanghai May 29th. She had a cargo of 600 tons Chinese merchandise and 227 Chinese and four European passengers. She is supposed to have gone down with all her freight and passengers.

#### Japan.

At Jeddah, on the 27th June, was held a convention, in which America, Japan, England, France and Holland participated. The revised import and export tariff was adopted. The articles adopted by the convention are of great importance to the commercial community.

#### China.

The conduct of the British authorities in connection with the recent expedition against the pirates of the north west coast, is severely commented upon by the Hongkong press.

A vessel with 436 Chinese emigrants recently sailed for Java. This is an important event, as the Dutch Government has hitherto resisted the introduction of Chinese coolies to that Island.

An accident involving great loss of life occurred at Ning Po, in connection with religious ceremonies, by which 63 fanatical Chinese miserably perished.

The *Futai* in Shantung has been reduced to third official rank on account of his failure to exterminate the rebels as rapidly as the Emperor desired.

#### Ireland.

Dublin, June 8.—One of the most disastrous fires that has taken place in Dublin for a long time broke out last evening in the house of Mr. James Delany, 19 and 20, Westmoreland-street. The house being a large one, the ground floor was divided into two shops No. 19 being occupied by Mr. Williams, hatter, and No. 20, which joined the Ballast-office, being used as the tailoring establishment of Mr. Delany. The remainder of the house was occupied by Mr. Delany and his family as a residence. His shop was closed as usual at 7 o'clock last evening and Mr. Williams's at 8. There was nobody in the house when the fire was discovered but Mrs. Delany, Miss Delany and her two young sisters, Mr. A. Strahan, who happened to be paying a visit to the family, and a servant girl. Quite suddenly, at about 10 minutes to 9 o'clock, the street passengers observed the fire. The shutters were cautiously opened which gave new stimulus from the full supply of air thus afforded; fearful flames burst out into the street, and raged laterally and upwards with great fury. The woodwork of the entire house seemed like tinder. With a most extraordinary rapidity the flames seized on and consumed everything that was consumable in the shop and on the drawing-room floor, and were rapidly extending higher still. Several human forms, half obscured by the smoke, appeared at the middle window of the attic floor, shrieking loudly for assistance, when two fire-escapes were brought up, one from Nelson's Pillar, the other from Foster place. One of these was reared against the front of the house, and efforts were made to get it into position to be availed of by the poor creatures who were in such peril; but from some cause or other, most swayed from the great pressure and swaying crowds difficulty was experienced in endeavouring to manage it. At this time one of the party who were in the attic of the burning house, a man, appeared imploring assistance for his female companions. Mr. Charles Taylor, a gentleman who was passing when the fire attracted his attention, rushed up the fire-escape ladder to render assistance, a portion of the machinery gave way, and he was obliged to retire. He was followed by one of the men of the Fire Brigade, a brave fellow named Gilligan, who also made great efforts to reach the house, but the fire escape was found useless, and and, after undergoing considerable risk of falling on account of the condition it had got into, came to the ground again. The other fire-escape was also found useless and the poor creatures perished.

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## COLONIST AND CHRONICLE

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### Shipping Intelligence.

PORT OF VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND

ENTERED  
Aug 15.—Bark Rival, San Francisco  
Schooner for Victoria, San Juan  
Sister Alexandria, Swanson, N Westminster  
Sip Louis, Cutler, San Juan  
Sip Alexia, Quin, N Westminster  
CLARED.

Aug 15.—Stern Tug, 100 tons, Crosby, P Angeles  
Sister Alexandra, Swanson, N Westminster  
Sip Letitia, Adams, P Angeles  
Sip Thorndyke, Thornton, San Juan

CONSIGNEES.

IMPORTS  
Per bark RIVAL, from San Francisco—Moore & Co., Kelly, Phillips, Groat & Fitter, Order, Hodges, Ehrenbacher, Kwong Lee & Co., Fitter, Lai Wong & Co., Montreal & Co., H. B. C., Pickett & Co.

Per bark RIVAL, from San Francisco—100 boxes  
candles, 23 packages Chinese inks, 20 bags coffee, 20  
cs crockery, etc., 172 lbs 14 ozs silk, 60 lbs 20  
cs hats, 500 cast, 30 lbs chino, 20 lbs 4 ozs muscat, 6 cs  
pats, 500 cast, 30 lbs chino, 20 lbs 4 ozs muscat, 6 cs  
turpentine, 2 steves, 20 lbs 200 lbs sugar, 100 lbs 4  
box, 40 lbs 100 lbs nests tea, 10 kegs vinegar, 10  
cs wine, Value, \$12,924.

### VALUE OF EXPORTS.

From Victoria, V. I., to American Ports

For the Month ending July 31st, 1866.

	TO SAN FRANCISCO
Bronze	13 lbs Wore
Clothing	69 pairs, etc.
Furs and Skins	655 lbs
Copper	54
Total	9120

TO PORT LAND

	TO PORT LAND
Bronze	5
Brony	56 lbs Miscellaneous goods
Brandy	131 OJ
Chains, cable, &c.	121 Pairs paper
Iron	600 lbs Wheal
Iron scrap	496 Pairs
Iron pipe	763 Steel
Total	4100

RECAPITULATION

	TO SAN FRANCISCO
Bricks, Salt, &c.	940
Portland	441
** For Angeles	400
Total	18,724

### MARRIED.

Yesterday evening, 15th inst., by the Rev. Thomas M. A. Fraser, Minister of First Presbyterian Church, Mr. Fraser, Esq., Farmer, San Juan Island, to Mary Jane, daughter of Thomas Fleming, Esq., Farmer, San Juan Island.

New Orleans and Santa Cruz, California, paper please copy.

### The Country Lands and Agricultural Interests.

A large and influential meeting of Agriculturalists and others interested in country lands, was held yesterday at the rooms of the Mechanic's Institute. Among those present were not the following: Messrs E. G. Alston, K. McKenzie, Dr. Davie, Rev. A. C. Garrett, Mr. Cochrane, M. L. A., Mr. Pidwell, M. L. A., Dr. Ash, M. L. A., Mr. C. A. Bayley, Mr. Geo. Deans, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Thompson, Mr. King, Mr. Stephens, Mr. D. Pemberton, Mr. Nias, Mr. John Tod, Mr. Bates, Mr. Weir, Mr. Selleck, Mr. Mansell, Mr. Tuite, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. D. M. Lang, Mr. J. Nicholson.

K. McKenzie, of Swan Lake, was called to the chair and E. G. Alston rose and addressed the meeting. He said he had been struck with a statement in the *Colonist & Chronicle* that \$66,000 was sent last year out of the Colony for articles which could raise ourselves; already this year, for the first six months, \$32,553 had been sent out for similar articles, and if we went on at this rate for the balance of the year, \$60,000 would have been sent away. The meeting had assembled for a little wholesome discussion. The Colony had been soiled with politics (hear), but the agricultural interests had been allowed to suffer. If we had kept the money in the country we should have been much better off to-day. It was wrong to attribute the present depression to the Government or the House of Assembly—we should rather abuse ourselves for having remained so long inactive. Whether we have Union or whether we have not, it remained to be seen if we could not do some good for ourselves. (Applause).

Dr. Davie rose to move the first resolution. He was greatly encouraged by the number present, and said it was impossible to look around without seeing the necessity that some vigorous action must be taken. Every cent that had come to us had been paid out. Capital from abroad had been spent in digging gold, and the gold had been paid to people who lived in another land. There was good land everywhere on this island, but it was locked up, and in order to open it to agricultural purposes, it must be in the hands of practical men—who would cultivate it. A great deal of the best land was reserved for Indian and Government purposes. What do the Indians at Cowichan do with the 35,000 acres of land? They don't cultivate 30 acres. A great deal of the land near Victoria was in the hands of speculators who had never produced a grain of corn, and who would only sell at an enormous advance. A tax should be imposed on these wild lands, to make the holders bring them into market or cultivate them. At the next election no member should be allowed to represent the Colony having through their representatives in the House of Assembly, recommended an extension of the permit system, with a view to protect home industries and so encourage settlement, His Excellency respectfully requested to consider whether it would not be possible to obtain a reconsideration of the subject by the Legislature during the present session.

Mr. Nias proposed the 4th resolution, as follows:

That a committee be appointed to wait upon His Excellency the Governor in order to press these matters and the views of this meeting on his favorable consideration.

Mr. Heistermann seconded, and the resolution was carried.

Mr. Davie moved the fifth resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Pidwell in a short speech in favor of protection for the farmer. There was a large tract of land here uncultivated, which was taxed at the same rate as cultivated land at Cranflower. Agricultural countries were the richest in the world, and it was a libel to say that there was no land worth cultivating. He favored the imposition of a tariff on manufactured goods.

The resolution was carried, and read as follows:

That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to Nanaimo and the outlying districts of the Colony, and the co-operation of the inhabitants invited thereto.

Mr. Pemberton moved the following:

That this Colony having through their

representatives in the House of Assembly, recommended an extension of the permit system, with a view to protect home industries and so encourage settlement, His Excellency respectfully requested to consider whether it would not be possible to obtain a reconsideration of the subject by the Legislature during the present session.

Mr. Nias said the Legislative Council had as great a constitutional right to express its opinion as the House of Assembly had, and he deprecated any such reflection upon the members.

Mr. Nias said the Legislative Council had been a curse to the country. (Laughter.)

Mr. Pidwell rose to a point of order.

Mr. Nias—There is no order about it. (Laughter.) The Council has been a curse to the city. (Laughter.) Gentlemen holding official positions may laugh, but it is a serious matter for men who have invested their funds and brought their families here.

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